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From the Bookshelf

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Risks and Survivors.....By Courtney Sheldon

The Little Toy Dog, by William L. White.
New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 304 pp. \$5.75.

The U-2 Affair, by David Wise and Thomas
B. Ross. New York: Random House. 289
pp. \$4.95.

As "The Little Toy Dog" tells the story of the two captured RB-47 flyers, fellow Americans can find much to praise in the behavior of the two imprisoned military men.

John McKone and Bruce Olmstead were the sole survivors of a United States military plane on an "electromagnetic research" mission just outside Soviet territorial waters. They were shot down by a Soviet fighter pilot.

Both countries conduct this risky type of border spying, attempting through electronic instruments to ferret out communication and defense secrets of the other. Prior to the shooting down of the RB-47, 75 Americans had been killed in air incidents near Soviet sea borders.

At first the Soviet interrogators of the two flyers were apparently convinced the RB-47 flight in 1960, which followed the downing of the U-2 over the Soviet Union, was invading Soviet air space.

But after Captains McKone and Olmstead doggedly stuck to their denials that they were trespassing or intended to, the Soviets seemed to become grudgingly convinced after seven months of their error. Premier Khrushchev suddenly released the two men after being assured the U.S. wouldn't make too much propaganda capital over the Soviet change of heart.

The treatment of the two jailed men, as told to Mr. White, was neither of the torture rack or smothering-with-sweetness type. The men say they told nothing of consequence to the Soviet authorities.

their education. If something did not fit, then they either never heard of it, or didn't believe it."

They were persistent. They counted on their prisoners finally becoming so defeatist that they would agree to sign false statements in the hope of leniency. The tricks the Soviets used were many, but the two flyers proved more wary than weary.

The publishers objected to the title of the book, but finally gave way to the wishes of Mr. White and the two flyers. The "little toy dog" was a rubber dog in the flying suit of Maj. Willard Palm, the pilot of the plane who was one of four killed on the flight. The dog was either lost at sea or kept by the Soviets when they returned the other effects of Major Palm to American authorities.

The U-2 Affair is somewhat more sensationally written, and the authors were even more handicapped than Mr. White in obtaining information from official sources. But the book has a breadth which anyone trying to get to the bottom of the U-2 episode will find very helpful.

By contrast with the RB-47 flight, the U-2 expedition was illegal under existing international standards. The behavior of Francis Gary Powers, the decision to send the U-2 over the Soviet Union just before the Paris summit meeting, as well as President Eisenhower's frank admission of the espionage purpose of the U-2 flight are still questioned by some.

Mr. Wise and Mr. Ross end their account on a critical note: "When Powers was freed, most of the press unquestioningly accepted as fact the officially leaked version of what the pilot told the C.I.A. in utmost secrecy. Not many seemed to realize that there might be a mutuality of interest between the C.I.A. and the Administration to redeem the public

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